

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

E. Lee Bray, Aluminum Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4979, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: lbray@usgs.gov

Hoa P. Phamdang (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7965
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: hphamdan@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

ALUMINUM IN NOVEMBER 2006

Domestic primary aluminum production in November was 188,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production rate was 6,267 t, 2% higher than that of the previous month but 8% below the rate for November 2005. Total aluminum recovered from scrap in November 2006 was 250,000 t, about 4% higher than that in October 2006 and 6% higher than that in November 2005. In November, 165,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, which was about 2% higher than that in October but 9% higher than in November 2005. Aluminum recovered from old scrap totaled 85,000 t in November, which was 8% higher than that in the previous month but only 1% higher than in November 2005.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased in November to \$1.272 per pound from \$1.241

per pound in October, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during November but closed the month at a higher level than that at the end of October. The price range began the month at 81–83 cents per pound. On November 10, the price range increased to 83–85 cents per pound, where it stayed until November 22, when it increased again to 84–86 cents per pound.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot in December increased to \$1.302 per pound. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs remained at 84–86 cents per pound throughout December.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2005	2,481	1,930	1,060	2,990	3,660	1,190	4,850	10,300	1,430
2005:									
November	204	151	84	236	240	91	330	770	1,440
December	208	143	82	225	299	89	388	821	1,430
January-November	2,273	1,770	1,030	2,810	3,360	1,100	4,460	9,540	1,440
2006:									
January	197	168	89	257	348	97	445	898	1,470
February	179	161	84	244	247	87	333	757	1,480
March	198	168	92	259	289	104	393	850	1,460
April	190	160	88	248	353	103	456	894	1,480
May	197	161	89	250	318	106	424	870	1,430
June	189	162	92	254	298	109	407	849	1,430
July	192	165	92	256	249	111	360	808	1,450
August	185	166	109	275	315	111	426	887	1,430
September	183	159	87	246	289	102	391	819	1,480
October	190	161	79	240	259	100	359	789	1,410
November	188	165	85	250	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-November	2,088	1,800	986	2,780	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2005	1,700	1,310	815	725	926	867	90	80	10	9	3,540	2,990
2005:												
November	138	101	62	55	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	285	236
December	129	93	63	56	74	69	8	7	(2)	(2)	274	225
January-November	1,610	1,170	760	676	934	875	90	80	5	5	3,400	2,810
2006:												
January	135	100	76	68	87	81	8	7	(2)	(2)	306	257
February	131	96	78	70	76	71	8	7	(2)	(2)	293	244
March	141	103	81	73	82	77	8	7	(2)	(2)	312	259
April	135	97	80	72	77	72	8	7	(2)	(2)	300	248
May	138	100	65	58	90	84	8	7	(2)	(2)	301	250
June	138	100	74	66	86	81	8	7	(2)	(2)	307	254
July	136	99	76	68	88	82	8	7	(2)	(2)	308	256
August	167	126	71	64	83	78	8	7	(2)	(2)	330	275
September	135	99	73	65	80	75	8	7	(2)	(2)	296	246
October	130	94	69	62	82	77	8	7	(2)	(2)	289	240
November	140	104	71	64	80	75	8	7	(2)	(2)	300	250
January-November	1,530	1,120	813	729	910	853	87	76	6	6	3,340	2,780

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN NOVEMBER 2006¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	117,000	140,000	86,600	104,000
Integrated aluminum companies	71,100	71,100	63,700	63,700
Independent mill fabricators	66,800	80,200	62,800	75,400
Foundries	6,490	7,790	5,690	6,830
Other consumers	536	643	536	643
Total	262,000	300,000	219,000	250,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN NOVEMBER 2006¹

(Metric tons)

	November				January-November ²	
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	17,900 ^r	82,700	80,300	20,200	856,000	856,000
Can stock clippings	819	17,100	17,200	709	201,000	204,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	4,630	20,100	20,400	4,380	239,000	239,000
Casting	2,570	9,110	9,610	2,070	89,100	89,100
Borings and turnings	3,400	10,900	11,800	2,550	122,000	123,000
Dross and skimmings	3,720	32,800	33,100	3,440	381,000	381,000
Total new scrap	33,000 ^r	173,000	172,000	33,400	1,890,000	1,890,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	3,700	15,500	15,800	3,430	168,000	168,000
Used Extrusion	426	1,390	1,390	426	14,100	14,100
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	2,070	52,300	52,400	2,040	631,000	629,000
Other wrought products	2,340	5,290	5,290	2,340	59,400	59,400
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,270	11,400	13,600	2,030	128,000	149,000
Total old scrap	12,800	85,800	88,400	10,300	1,000,000	1,020,000
Sweated pig	198	790	790	198	8,780	8,780
Total all classes	46,000 ^r	259,000	262,000	43,900	2,900,000	2,920,000

^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes revised data from previous month(s).

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2006^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	November				January-November ³	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,870	1,380	1,600	2,650	15,700	15,900
380 and variations	2,940	21,000	20,800	3,170	178,000	180,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,170	1,790	1,800	1,160	18,900	18,800
No. 319 and variations	3,050	4,890	5,790	2,150	62,000	61,500
F-132 alloy and variations	665 [†]	1,480	1,430	710	17,800	18,000
Al-Zn alloys	320	186	174	332	2,340	2,300
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	41	24	24	41	265	265
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	4,530	4,530
Other ⁴	4,910	7,880	8,200	4,580	88,100	88,800
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,400	19,600	19,600	10,400	218,000	218,000
Total all alloys	26,600 [†]	58,700	59,800	25,500	606,000	608,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	9,980	XX	XX	111,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,650	XX	XX	27,400	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	506	XX	XX	9,810	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	44,600	XX	XX	457,000	XX

[†]Revised. XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes revised data from previous months.

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2006¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October
Argentina	4,370	51,100	7	116	--	--	4,370	51,200
Australia	9,500	51,500	14	147	437	1,230	9,950	52,800
Bahrain	7,840	69,700	916	11,100	--	--	8,750	80,800
Belgium	49	197	650	6,080	--	122	699	6,400
Brazil	7,080	115,000	3,110	26,600	--	634	10,200	142,000
Canada	160,000	1,650,000	42,200	448,000	31,000	290,000	233,000	2,390,000
China	11,500	52,000	13,300	136,000	2	5	24,800	187,000
France	48	637	303	4,020	--	74	351	4,730
Germany	339	4,880	10,300	106,000	45	272	10,700	111,000
Hungary	--	--	395	2,810	--	--	395	2,810
Italy	--	157	169	2,200	(2)	(2)	169	2,360
Japan	159	541	1,360	13,300	74	695	1,600	14,600
Korea, Republic of	34	253	177	2,640	--	195	211	3,080
Mexico	884	1,900	2,060	17,700	9,500	100,000	12,400	120,000
Netherlands	55	645	253	1,880	--	102	308	2,630
Norway	--	237	42	233	--	--	42	470
Russia	34,100	589,000	5,490	41,200	2,460	5,630	42,000	636,000
South Africa	4,540	71,200	3,030	44,900	--	--	7,560	116,000
Spain	8	140	124	1,140	--	--	132	1,280
Sweden	--	3,170	476	4,120	--	31	476	7,320
Switzerland	--	1,100	624	4,990	--	--	624	6,090
Tajikistan	--	25,700	--	--	--	--	--	25,700
United Arab Emirates	7,240	84,900	--	3	285	1,480	7,520	86,400
United Kingdom	230	32,000	521	5,070	--	1,460	751	38,500
Venezuela	6,960	121,000	698	13,800	205	2,370	7,860	137,000
Other	3,660	38,600	13,900	136,000	3,520	35,500	21,100	210,000
Total	259,000	2,960,000	100,000	1,030,000	47,500	440,000	406,000	4,430,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2006¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	October	January-October	October	January-October	October	January-October	October	January-October
Australia	41	279	144	1,470	--	42	185	1,790
Belgium	117	1,200	583	5,810	--	309	701	7,320
Brazil	26	122	549	5,530	--	290	575	5,940
Canada	7,760	103,000	41,800	414,000	13,300	126,000	62,900	642,000
China	190	2,460	3,940	31,600	71,300	779,000	75,400	813,000
Czech Republic	--	(2)	10	128	--	--	10	128
Dominican Republic	2	86	25	277	--	40	27	402
France	--	70	1,460	11,300	--	22	1,460	11,400
Germany	60	449	398	8,510	43	264	500	9,230
Hong Kong	8	1,080	736	9,460	2,390	19,200	3,140	29,700
India	8	257	74	549	885	7,020	967	7,830
Israel	45	972	274	3,310	--	--	319	4,290
Italy	97	490	437	4,240	--	728	534	5,460
Japan	573	8,510	1,480	16,800	3,460	36,600	5,510	61,800
Korea, Republic of	8	686	1,290	11,900	14,200	124,000	15,500	136,000
Malaysia	(2)	43	630	3,770	171	2,160	801	5,960
Mexico	14,900	166,000	22,800	222,000	7,470	86,300	45,200	475,000
Netherlands	12	108	74	673	59	286	145	1,070
Russia	299	545	1	151	--	19	300	715
Saudi Arabia	19	22	2,000	25,600	--	(2)	2,020	25,600
Singapore	34	140	159	1,660	43	56	236	1,850
Spain	--	32	49	1,060	--	7	49	1,100
Sweden	--	1	45	157	--	--	45	158
Taiwan	41	295	702	8,140	4,830	47,100	5,570	55,600
Thailand	62	1,440	299	5,960	1,040	11,400	1,400	18,800
Ukraine	--	6	--	18	--	--	--	24
United Kingdom	87	372	1,580	15,700	41	474	1,710	16,600
Venezuela	--	21	213	1,920	--	1	213	1,940
Other	1,400	8,440	4,440	36,100	2,510	32,200	8,360	76,800
Total	25,800	297,000	86,200	847,000	122,000	1,270,000	234,000	2,420,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.